Disparity between rural and urban women employees in wages

3194. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study by the National Sample Survey Organisation, it has been found that there is wide disparity between rural and urban women employees in regard to wages and salaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to take any corrective measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per National Sample Survey Organisation report 2004-05, the difference of wages and salaries between rural and urban women employees is Rs. 67.66. The average wages/salaries of a rural and urban women employee per day are Rs. 85.53 and Rs. 153.19 respectively. In the rural areas, women are predominantly working in agriculture and related activities which are not very highly paid whereas in urban areas, women are working in different sectors including services and other organized sectors where the wages are higher. Therefore this disparity in wages between rural and urban women could be attributed to difference in the nature of activities carried out by women in these areas.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There are no such proposal under consideration at present.

PF assurance scheme for workers of unorganised sector

3195. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government on the lines of the State Government of West Bengal would launch an assisted scheme of Provident Fund for unorganised workers for both employed and self-employed workers in the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the break-up of total workers who would be benefited by the scheme, State-wise;

(d) how much financial outlay is proposed for the said purpose; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not taking up initiatives to protect the workers of unorganised sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (e) Central Government has taken steps to provide social security cover to both employed and self-employed workers in the unorganised sector, *inter-alia*, through the schemes given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

Central Government is concerned about the social security needs of certain categories of unorganised sector workers who may be marginally above the poverty line. Possibilities of formulating schemes for provident fund for both employed and self-employed

unorganised sector workers for such categories would require examination as regards their funding and respective contributions.

Statement

Details of the assisted scheme of provident fund for unorganised sector for both employed and self employed workers

Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme: The scheme provides for old age pension to all citizens above the age of 65 years and living below the proverty line. The State Governments have been asked to top up Central Government per capita grant of Rs. 200/-

National Family Benefit Scheme: The scheme provides for a lump sum grant of Rs. 10,000/- in the event of death of primary breadwinner.

Janani Suraksha Yojana: Janani Suraksha Yojana under National Rural Health Mission is being implemented with the objective of reducing maternal and neo-natal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among the poor pregnant women.

Handloom Weavers, Comprehensive Welfare Scheme: The scheme has two components (i) Health Insurance scheme and (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana. The Health Insurance scheme provides for cover of Rs. 15,000/- out of which Rs. 7,500/- is for OPD cover. The Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana provides for death and disability cover.

Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme: The scheme has two components (i) Rajive Gandhi Shilpi Swasthy Bima Yojana and (ii) Bima Yojana for handicarft artisans provides for life insurance protection to Handicrafts artisans in case of natural death/ accidental death or total/partial disability due to accident.

Pension to Mastercraftspersons: The pension at rate of Rs. 1000/- is awarded to mastercraftspersons of 60 years or above who are recipients of National Award and merit certificate or State award.

National Scheme for Welfare for Fishermen and Training and Extension: The National scheme for welfare of fishermen has three components (i) Development of Model Fishermen villages (ii) Saving-cum-Relief and (iii) insurance providing for housing facilities, relief measures and insurance cover. The Central sponsored scheme for Training and Extension provides for training facilities to fishery personnel.

Janshree Bima Yojana:- The scheme provides for death and disability cover to persons living below poverty line and marginally above poverty line and certain occupational groups.

Aam Admi Bima Yojana: Rural Landless households between the age group of the 18 to 59 years are eligible for death and disability cover under the scheme.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana:- The scheme provides for smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- cover to the BPL workers and their families (aunit of five).